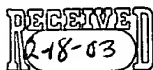


Official

PATENT APPLICATION
Do. No. 2705-39#3
2-22-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: R. Ashby Armistead Confirmation No.: 2499
Serial No. 09/186,977 Examiner: Edith M. Yeh
Filed: November 5, 1998 Group Art Unit: 2634
For: MODEM FAILOVER WITHOUT CALL LOSS

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated November 15, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. A data communication interface comprising:
 - a data bus;
 - a resource internal state memory;
 - first and second data-handling resources connected to said data bus, each connected to said resource internal state memory such that internal state information from said first data-handling resource is savable in said resource internal state memory and is retrievable from said resource internal state memory by said second data-handling resource; and
 - a data-handling resource controller that responds to one or more conditions indicating that data from a first data connection should no longer be directed to said first resource, by directing said data from said first data connection to said second data-handling resource without loss of connection.
2. The data communication interface of claim 1, wherein said first data-handling resource comprises a first digital signal processor, and said second data-handling resource comprises a second digital signal processor.